

**Lesson
7**

Subjects in Unusual Order

Teaching

In most **questions**, the subject comes after the verb or between parts of the verb phrase.

Are you healthy? (*you* is the subject; *are* is the verb)

Do you have agility? (*you* is the subject; *Do have* is the verb phrase)

The subject of a **command**, or imperative sentence, is usually *you*. Often, *you* doesn't appear in the sentence because it is implied, or understood.

Practice that maneuver.

VERB (The implied subject is *you*.)

In an inverted sentence, the subject comes after the verb.

Up the mountain climbed the brave hiker.

VERB

SUBJECT

In some sentences beginning with the words *here* or *there*, the subject follows the verb. You find the subject by looking at the words that follow the verb.

Here is a steep cliff. There were many climbers on the mountain.

VERB

SUBJECT

VERB

SUBJECT

Finding Subjects and Verbs in Unusual Positions

In the following sentences, underline the simple subject once and the verb or verb phrase twice. If the subject is understood, write **You** in parentheses on the line.

1. Do you know anything about mountain climbing? _____
2. There are people in love with the sport. _____
3. Are you one of them? _____
4. Has anyone tried that steep trail? _____
5. Here are some suggestions for safe climbing. _____
6. Hike with others, not alone. _____
7. Choose your path carefully. _____
8. There should be an emergency plan in case of danger. _____
9. Over the sharp rocks stumbled the weary climber. _____
10. Here comes a rockslide! _____
11. Around the mountain climbers howled the fierce snowstorm. _____
12. Are your hiking boots waterproof? _____

Subjects in Unusual Order**More Practice****A. Writing Sentences**

In the following sentences, underline the simple subject once and the verb twice. Then rewrite each sentence so that the subject comes before the verb.

EXAMPLE To the peak struggled the victorious climber.

The victorious climber struggled to the peak.

1. There are mountains under water.

2. In the Black Hills are dome mountains.

3. Were some mountains volcanic?

4. Far above sea level rises the mighty Mt. Everest.

5. Did the Rockies form after the Appalachians?

B. Writing Sentences

Rewrite each sentence as an inverted or imperative sentence. You may choose to add *Here* or *There*. Then underline each subject once and each verb twice in your new sentence.

EXAMPLE The miners drilled into the mountain.

Into the mountain drilled the miners.

1. The silver mine is down this shaft.

2. Nuggets of gold sparkled there in the mountain stream.

3. Coal carts rumbled through the mine entrance.

4. You must wear a hard hat in the mine.

5. Precious minerals are deep within some mountains.

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7**

Subjects in Unusual Order

Application

A. Revising Using Different Sentence Orders

The writer of this paragraph decided never to use the usual word order of subject before verb. In all of the paragraph's sentences, the subject is in an unusual place or is understood. Rewrite the paragraph. Use a variety of sentence orders to improve it.

There are many attractions in the mountains. Very exciting is rock hunting. Just on the surface are different kinds of rocks. Could some of them be fossils? In the mountains live many animals also. There are small mammals and birds to study. Occasionally are seen larger animals, such as deer or moose. In a photo album can be placed pictures of these creatures. Are mountain plants important, too? On mountain meadows thrive unusual wildflowers. Think of other ways you can enjoy the mountains.

B. Revising Using a Variety of Sentence Orders

The writer of this paragraph decided always to use the usual word order of subject before verb. Rewrite the paragraph, this time using many kinds of sentence orders. Write at least two sentences in which the subject comes before the verb. Write at least two sentences in a more unusual order, with the subject after the verb.

Mountains are named by how they are formed. Sometimes the earth's crust folds like a wave. A *folded mountain* is made in this way. Often, the crust breaks into huge pieces. A *block mountain* comes from these broken pieces. Sometimes the crust rises up, but it does not fold or crack. A *dome mountain* results from the bulging crust. Occasionally, lava and ash pour out of a crack in the earth. A *volcanic mountain* is formed in this way.
